

From the Red Light District To The Red Line District (Joshua 2:9-21)

Proposition: The conversion of Rehab shows every one of us how God can work salvation in the most sinful among us!

I. The Fear that God Brought (Vs. 9-13)

A. A National Fear (Vs. 9-11c)

B. A Personal Fear (Vs. 12-13)

II. The Faith that God Wrought (Vs. 11-13)

A. An Announced Faith (Vs. 11d)

B. An Acting Faith (Vs. 6-7,15)

C. An Affecting Faith (Vs. 12-13)

D. An Awarded Faith (Matthew 1:5-6)

III. The Figure that God Taught

A. A Figure telling the Case of Salvation (Vs. 18-19)

B. A Figure telling the Cost of Salvation (Romans 5:9)

From the Red Light District to the Red Line District (Joshua 2: 9-21) - The author of "Amazing Grace" John Newton had great difficulty with his memory. In the later days of his life a friend asked if he still had a bad memory. Newton replied: "Yes, I do, but I remember two things: I am a great sinner and I have a great Saviour, and I don't suppose an old slave trader needs to remember much more than that. Fitting words for a man who penned 'Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!' There is no depth of sin that one may delude to from which the gracious hand of God can not save us. Such is the example of our text today! Rehab the harlot, the prostitute, the sensual profligate of promiscuity yet is found in the Hebrew hall of fame. The conversion of Rehab shows everyone of us how God can work salvation into the most sinful among us.

I. The Fear that God Brought - In the song Amazing Grace one of the most insightful lines concerning God's salvation is "Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear"

of God, is the conviction of our sins. A Fear of the
A. A National Fear (9-11c) - According to
Rahab, word had gotten back to
Jericho about all that was going on
in Egypt's land. All the miracles that
God had wrought. The victories this
untrained & ill equipped army of slaves was
doing on the horizon surrounding Jericho.
In sure JNN was filled w/ daily stories of
how close the Hebrew insurgents were to Jericho
everyday. They breathed a sigh of relief
when they turned in to the wilderness for 40 yrs.
But now their back! A Public Pervasive fear of

B. A Personal Fear (1d) - This was not only
a national fear, it is a personal. Note the
words, we, our, vs 12, I, me, 13, same thing.
She was afraid for her life. Why? She
was personally corrupt - vs 1 She was
identified as a harlot a prostitute. She
had lived a life of immorality and sin.
She had every reason to personally tremble
before a holy God. Countless times she had
broken God's law concerning adultery. The
end result of a harlot was to be a rock pile
on the side of the camp. You may not be a pros

II. The Faith that God Wrought -
Yes, "It was grace that brought my heart
to fear," and grace my fears relieved."
The same grace that convicts and convinces
is the same grace that converts. God

1) ...A fear of the impending judgment of a righteous and holy God on our violations of His law! We see this in the life of Rahab.

2) ...fear of the pending judgment of God. This national fear of God is missing from our nation today. A fear that God would respond in judgment to our rebellion. Why is it missing? Could it be that the people of God are not walking in the power of God? Trusting in the supply of God? Holding up the name of God?

3) ...not be a prostitute, but doubtless you are guilty of breaking God's moral law, there by proving the corrupt nature of your father Adam residing in your person. This fear of God is essential to gaining forgiveness of sins! This fear led to faith! I think of the old Nazarene preacher, Uncle Buddy Robinson. He said, "I went to hear this Methodist preacher preach, and he preached on Heaven till I wanted to go there. Then he preached on Hell till I thought I was going there."

- 1) James 2:25-26 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.
- 2) ...genuine salvation brings change to a person's heart! Transformation in their life! I heard of a fellow was preaching on a street corner and an agnostic in the crowd kept heckling him. He would cry out, "You're just dreaming." Finally a little boy in the crowd reached up and tapped him on the arm and said, "That's my daddy preaching. He used to come home drunk and beat my mommy and me. We used to go hungry and my daddy would not come home for days. But now he loves us, takes care of us, and he is a good daddy now. If he is dreaming, please sir, don't wake him up."
- 3) ...is to see their family come to know the Lord! Salvation ought to have a profound affect on your desires as well. Instead of hate in my heart, I have hope. Instead of panic, I have peace. Instead of doubt I have dependence!
- 4) Matthew 1:5-6 And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; And Jesse begat David the king...
- 5) ...Hebrew hall of fame. God can take an old drunk and make a deacon out of him. God can take someone who was the embarrassment of a community and make them the envy of a community. God can take someone mom's and dad's pointed their children to as an example of how not to live and make them into someone mom's and dad's point to as an example of how to live. He can take someone who's mouth was filled with profanity and fill it with praises. He can take a harlot and make her the great-grandmother of a king!

wrought saving Faith in the heart of this Prostitute

A. An Announced Faith - (11d) A clear statement of personal faith. Jerico was a Canaanite city that worshipped many gods Baal + Ashtoreth. Here she is announcing her faith! Rom 10:9 If thou shalt confess w/...

In that moment she believed on the Lord + confessed

B. An Acting Faith (6-7, 15) - Her faith was not only articulated or announced but it was acted upon. She hid the spies and lowered them down the wall to safety. James 2:25-26 There was a change in her actions based on her announcement. Genuine sal

C. An Affecting Faith (12-13) - This faith wrought in the heart of Rahab affected her desires for her family. Her top priority was to see that those nearest and dearest to her might be saved. One of the first desires of a baby Christian is

D. An Awarded Faith - She was awarded in her lineage. We don't hear a whole lot about Rahab until Matthew 1:5-6. She would become the direct line out of which would come King David and then the Lord Jesus. She takes a place of mention in the Hebrew hall of

III The Figure that God Taught -

Vs 18, 17-21, Later on in the book of Joshua you will find the children of Israel marching round + round the ... with ... they could not have

missed the crimson rope that hung from Rahab's
A. A Figure telling the Case of Salvation
(18-19) - Rahab asked for a token in 13th
Something that will announce that
there in this home were saved from the
wrath to come. She lived on the wall
Her little and door post were to the inside.
I believe that like the blood applied at
the passover marked the home safe from
destruction so the scarlet cord announced
that they had been saved from coming Judgm
ent. We first of all announce our faith in Christ
by Baptism, then we announce it by showing our

B. A Figure telling the Cost of Salvation
(Rom 5:9) - This scarlet cord is a
figure of the blood of Jesus Christ.
Just like the blood on the little &
Door post of the houses of the children
of Israel painted to the blood of Christ
so the crimson cord out Rahab's window
reminds us of the grounds of our deliverance
from the wrath to come. ⁽³⁾ Rom 5:9. Charles
Spurgeon once had a dream. He dreamed
that he arrived at the gates of heaven. As
he arrived he saw ⁽⁴⁾ a long line of people

IV. Close - Rahab went from the Red light
district, w/ all its sin, sorrow & shame to the
the Red line district. She is not the same person
anymore! My preacher used to sing an old song in
many of his messages called ⁽⁵⁾ "Thanks to Calvary!"

- 1) ...Rahab's window. What was this rope for? It was a figure that speaks volumes!
- 2) ...our faith with those around us, just like Rahab did.
- 3) Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
- 4) ...line of people entering the gate to the heavenly city. He watched as a group entered singing and praising God. He asked, "Who are they?" The angel replied, "These are the great patriarchs." The heart of Spurgeon sank as he thought to himself, "I am not a Patriarch. I will not be able to go in." He continued to watch as another group, bigger than the first, marched in with singing and shouting. "Who are they," he asked. The angel replied, "These are the prophets and apostles." His heart sank even more for he knew that he was not a prophet, nor priest, nor king. Another group passed before him, a group much larger than the others. They marched triumphantly into the city, their banners waving in the air, the shouts of praise filling the air, the faces lit with the glory of God. As before, he asked, "Who are they." "These are the martyrs. These are they who gave their life for the cause of Christ," answered the angel. Spurgeon began to weep: "I could never enter the city. I am no patriarch, no prophet or apostle, and certainly not one who willingly laid down their life for the cause of Christ." But then, another group appeared over the horizon. Their number was more than man could tell. Their shouts and praises filled the air like thunder. They sang, they clapped their hands, they danced, they shouted. As Spurgeon looked closer at this group, he thought, "No, it cannot be. That is the drunkard that came to a service one Sunday night." He looked closer. "Surely that can't be her. That's the harlot I spoke to on a street corner." As the group drew closer, he recognized this one and that one. He turned to the angel and asked, "Who are they?" The angel replied, "These are they who have washed their robes in the blood of Lamb." Spurgeon began to clap his hands; "I can go in for I too have washed my robe in the blood of Lamb." #5 ----->

- 5) Today I went back to the place where I used to go, Today I saw the same old crowd I knew before; And when they asked what had happened I tried to tell them Thanks to Calvary, I don't go there anymore. Thanks to Calvary, I'm not the man I used to be, Thanks to Calvary things are different than before. As the tears ran down my face, I tried to tell them; Thanks to Calvary, I don't go there anymore.